

10. A method as claimed in [any of claims ] claim 7 [to 9] wherein the eluting agent is a volatile reagent.

11. A method as claimed in claims 10, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 27 wherein the volatile reagent is formic acid.

17. A method as claimed in [any of the preceding] claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 27 wherein the peptide mass fingerprint is obtained by mass spectrometry.

18. A method as claimed in [any of the preceding] claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 27 further comprising the use of automated well plate handling technology and automated high-throughput mass spectrometry.

**Please add the following claims:**

19. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the antibodies generated in step (B)(i.) are immobilised on a support comprising nitrocellulose or PVDF.

20. A method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the support upon which the antibodies are immobilised are treated with an oligosaccharide or polyvinylpyrrolidone solution to block any remaining binding sites.

21. A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the oligosaccharide is ficoll.

22. A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the eluting agent is a volatile reagent.

23. A method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the eluting agent is a volatile reagent.

24. A method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the eluting agent is a volatile reagent.

25. A method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the eluting agent is a volatile reagent.